

Volume 1, Issue 1

September 2007

## DISTRICT V NEWS

## **District V Advisory Board**



The District Advisory Board (DAB) serves as representatives of the community to provide citizen feedback to Council Member Longwell.

The District Advisory Board consists of 11 members, 1 alternate, and 1 youth member appointed by the Council Member.

The DAB members provide feedback and input on City policies, programs and projects as well as assist with issues ranging from large items, such as the City operating budget, to specific zoning cases impacting a neighborhood.

The DAB meets in the evenings to provide citizens with easy access to local government. In addition, DABs develop goals and special projects to directly impact the neighborhoods in the district.

#### District Advisory Board Meeting

Auburn Hills Golf Course 443 W 135th St West 7:00 p.m.

Meets the 1st Monday of every month.

#### 2007 Meeting Schedule

9/10, 10/1, 11/5, and 12/3

For updates visit www.wichita.gov

Your
District V
Representatives are:

CM Jeff Longwell
Mike Bell
Dana Brown
Jay Buckmaster
David Dennis
Joey Ellzey
Jay Flinn
Bryan Frye
Mike Hill
Darrell Leffew
Clarke Sandberg
Kelly Watkins
Pam Ream—Alternate
Logan Fritz—Youth



City of Wichita Capital Improvement Program, Fiscal Years 2007-2016

District V Projects

CM Longwell has worked diligently to move projects for District V to the front of the line. Be on the lookout for the following projects to begin in District V:

Bridge: 13th N. @ Cowskin-Budgeted for 2008-2011

Fire Station: 21st N & 135th St W-Budgeted for 2008-2011

Arterials: Central—119th W to 135th W; Central-Maize to Tyler; Central—Tyler to Socora; Maple—119th W to 135th W; Maple—Ridge to Julia; Tyler—Maple to Socora; West—Maple to Central - Budgeted for 2008-

## **New District V Fire Station—Station**

Great News the fire station is near. District V will have a new fire station located at 21st North & 135th St West in 2008, with the fire station facing 135th St W. The basic design of the facility has been completed and reviewed by the City of Wichita Design Council The design of stations includes a two bay station, one apparatus (an engine), staffed by four personnel (a Captain and three Firefighters) on each shift.



The design of the station will also allow staff and the number of apparatus to be increased to address future response needs. The station will also have an 'operations center' attached to it. An 'operation center' is an area that will be used during the mitigation of larger emergency incidents that might occur in Wichita. This center will also serve as a meeting room. Construction is not expected to begin until a primary contractor is selected. It is expected that request for bids for occur in September. Please stay tuned for information as it becomes available.

## What is a Neighborhood Association vs. a Homeowner's Association?

#### What is a Neighborhood Association?

Usually a specific issue provides the rallying point for a group of neighbors to come together with the idea of forming a Neighborhood Association. A strong neighborhood is a valuable tool in maintaining healthy communities. Neighborhood organizations bring together people of diverse backgrounds, who share common concerns for their safety, properties, homes and community interests. Neighborhood organizations help City staff and elected officials identify and resolve issues and concerns in a particular area. There is strength in numbers - having a unified voice can make a difference.

#### What is a Homeowner Association?

An HOA is an actual business entity and normally is organized as a "Not for profit" organization. It is subject to all of the same filings that other nonprofit organizations are subject to including annual reports, tax returns and business classification. The mandatory homeowners association is the cornerstone of a planned residential community. It gives continuity to the community, it preserves architectural integrity and it helps to insure the proper upkeep and maintenance of amenities like pools, ponds, waterfalls, fountains, playgrounds and clubhouses.

Mandatory HOAs are a concept of residential home ownership. Purchase of a home in a covenant community brings with it automatic membership in the homeowners association which is governed by documents called "Covenants, Conditions and Restrictions," (CCR) that are part and parcel with the title and purchase of the property. These covenants govern each member's participation in the association including mandatory obligations, financial responsibilities and the assumed commitment to abide by the written rules of the HOA including fence types, roofing materials, paint colors etc.

When properly managed it promotes the "community" concept and helps protect the property values of homes within the community. Homeowners associations make it possible for residents to enjoy amenities in their neighborhood that they may not otherwise have including walking and bike paths and swimming pools as an example due to affordability or available land. Homeowner associations can help to facilitate communication between residents, improve security and beautification within a planned community.

There are four Neighborhood Associations in District V and they are: Delano Township, Sunridge, Westlink, and Whistling Walks. To learn more about these Neighborhood Associations log onto www.wichita.gov

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#### City of Wichita

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### Your Connection

Megan Buckmaster is your Neighborhood Assistant. As your Neighborhood Assistant I am tasked with building, maintaining, and preserving stable, healthy and livable neighborhoods in the City of Wichita in partnership with community stakeholders.

I am also here to keep the community informed, help identify resources, and communicate the needs of the community to Council Member Longwell and City staff.

Please fell free to contact me with any questions or concerns.



# Ask Jeff? "Here to serve the community!"

Do you have questions for me? Would you like me to attend your Neighborhood or Homeowners Association meeting?

Give me a call at 268-4331 or send an e-mail to: jlongwell@wichita.gov

I look forward to hearing from each of you in the near future and welcome you to join us at our monthly District Advisory Board meeting or breakfast.

Hope to see you soon!

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## Organizing Your Neighborhood

Do you live an area that is not organized? Do you know if there is a Neighborhood Association in your area? As we move forward in addressing change in our communities, having an organized Neighborhood will be critical. Want to find out more about forming a Neighborhood Association or if you have one in your area contact your Neighborhood Assistant or visit the City's website at:

http://www.wichita.gov/Government/CityCouncil/District5/NA.htm

## District V Distribution List

 If you are interested in being added to our distribution list please call or send an e-mail  $\ \square$ to Megan Buckmaster. If you know of anyone who would like to be on the distribution  $\ \ \Box$ list for District V please forward them this information as well.

Being informed is essential to change